



Australian Bureau of Statistics

1362.3 - Regional Statistics, Queensland, 2002

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Summary

Main Features

Regional Statistics, Queensland 2002 (Cat. No. 1362.3) presents a statistical summary of key economic and social information for regional Queensland. The information is sourced from the ABS and other organisations. As in previous editions, data are presented for Queensland, statistical divisions (SDs), local government areas (LGAs), statistical districts and labour force regions. The statistical information for Queensland and SDs is presented as a set of time series indicators that should assist in the analysis of changes that have occurred over the last 5 years.

The publication includes a map, commentary and tables for each region and contains important information relating to:

- demography/population estimates;
- births and deaths;
- social security customers;
- building approvals;
- agriculture;
- tourist accommodation;
- motor vehicles on register and motor vehicle registrations;
- income;
- crime (including drug offences); and
- schools and students.

Regional Statistics, Queensland 2002 also contains two feature articles:

- I. Census of Population and Housing - selected Census data by statistical division and statistical district; and
- II. Labour Force - a small article on Queensland's Labour Force Status by statistical region.

Chapter 1 of the publication provides an overview which highlights the statistical differences between metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas. It is reproduced below.

QUEENSLAND REGIONAL STATISTICS OVERVIEW

Queensland is a state of contrasts. This overview illustrates some of these contrasts whilst focusing on the statistical differences between metropolitan and non-metropolitan areas. It brings together selected economic, social and environmental statistics from both ABS and non-ABS sources to highlight aspects of life in Queensland.

Physical Environment

Covering approximately 1,734,190 sq km, Queensland is the second largest state in Australia. Including islands, it has 13,350 km of coastline, second only to Western Australia.

Queensland has almost 1,000 islands including the world's largest sand island, Fraser Island. In area, Queensland is equivalent to the entire British Isles and Western Europe and is five times the size of Japan but has a population less than that of the Sydney Statistical Division (SD).

The environment varies from tropical rainforests in the north-east to channel country in the south-west. The Great Dividing Range, running roughly north to south, acts as a watershed that separates the state into a fertile coastal plain on the eastern side and drier interior in the west.

The lands and soils of Queensland are an essential resource that support much of our natural production. Around 87% of the state is used as grazing land, whilst protected areas cover 4% and forest and timber reserves a further 2.4%. Land management is needed to prevent the degradation of our soils, currently under threat from unsustainable agricultural practices, vegetation clearing, urban development, introduced species and land contamination.

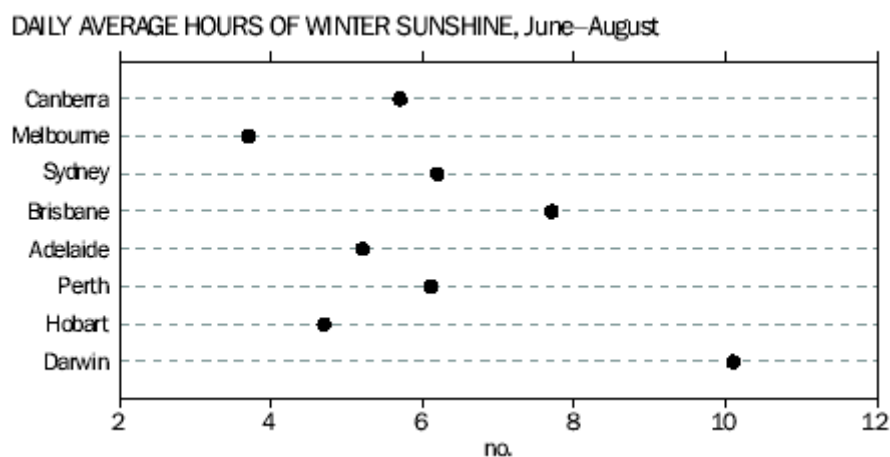
Climate

Weather conditions can vary dramatically across the state. Most of the northern regions above the Tropic of Capricorn experience a tropical climate with hot wet summers and mild dry winters. During the wet season, November to April, tropical cyclones can bring devastating winds and rain to these regions. From May to October, however, the regions experience mild sunny weather.

One of the most outstanding features about Queensland's rainfall is its great variability with the highest rainfall occurring in the 6 months between November and April. The concentration of rain during this time is greatest in the north of the state, reaching a maximum in the Gulf of Carpentaria region. In southern Queensland good summer rainfall is slightly less reliable, except for the coastal fringe, which has an assured summer rainfall.

Queensland has one of the highest annual daily averages of sunshine for Australia. The highest daily averages of bright or direct sunshine occur in October when the state records 8-11 hours per day. A comparison of the average number of hours of sunshine per day for Australian capital cities during the winter months of June to August reinforces Queensland's claim to the 'Sunshine State' title. Only Darwin has recorded a higher average during this period. One of the most outstanding features about Queensland's rainfall is its great variability with the highest rainfall occurring in the 6 months between November and April. The concentration of rain during this time is greatest in the north of the state, reaching a maximum in the Gulf of Carpentaria region. In southern Queensland good summer rainfall is slightly less reliable, except for the coastal fringe, which has an assured summer rainfall.

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Source: Bureau of Meteorology.

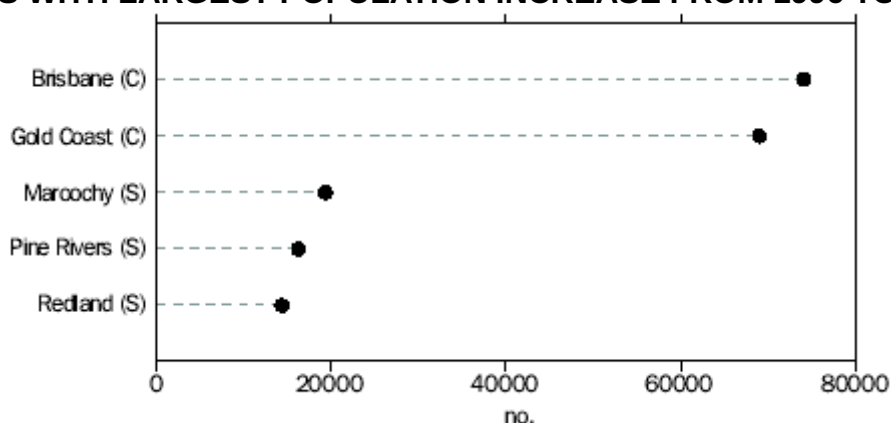
Population growth ¹

For the period June 1996 to June 2001, Queensland was the second fastest growing state or territory (behind the Northern Territory), with an increase in estimated resident population (ERP) of 296,400 people or an average annual growth rate of 1.7%.

Four-fifths (81.5%) of Queensland's growth for the period occurred in the south-east corner of the state with an increase of 241,500 people. As a result of this growth the proportion of the Queensland population living in the south-east region has continued to increase steadily, from 62.4% in 1991 to 64.0% in 1996, and then to 65.5% in 2001.

This region contains the two most populous LGAs in Queensland, the cities of Brisbane and Gold Coast. These areas experienced the largest increases in population in Queensland, and in Australia, between 1996 and 2001. Brisbane increased by 74,000 people (at an average rate of 1.7% per year) while the Gold Coast increased by 69,000 people (or 3.6% per year). New housing estates, particularly in the south, catered for the largest increases within Brisbane LGA.

LGAS WITH LARGEST POPULATION INCREASE FROM 1996 TO 2001



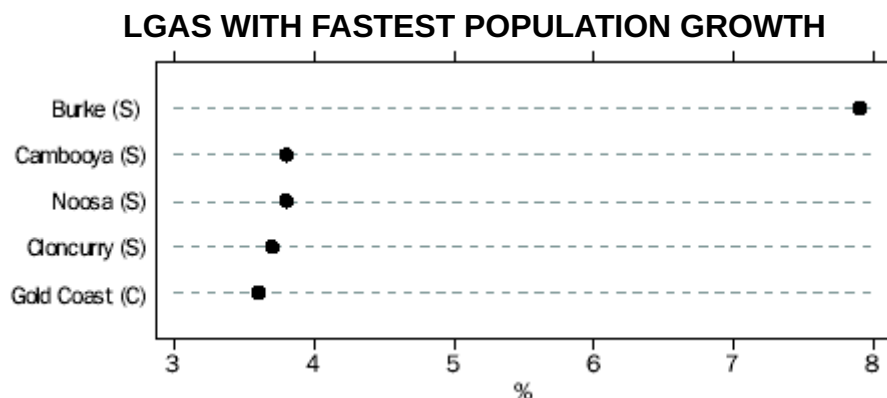
Source: Regional Population Growth, Australia and New Zealand, 1991 to 2001, (cat . no. 3218.0).

Coastal areas remain popular with the cities of Thuringowa and Townsville in the Northern SD increasing by 7,600 and 5,700 people respectively (representing average annual growth rates of 3.1% and 1.3%). Cairns (C) in the Far North SD increased by 7,000 people at an average rate of 1.2% per year.

The Wide Bay-Burnett SD increased by 12,600 with Hervey Bay (C) accounting for 4,600

people, a rate of 2.3% per year. The Far North SD recorded an increase of 12,100 people reflecting an average growth rate of 1.1% per year, while the Northern SD increased by 11,700 people reflecting an average annual growth rate of 1.3%.

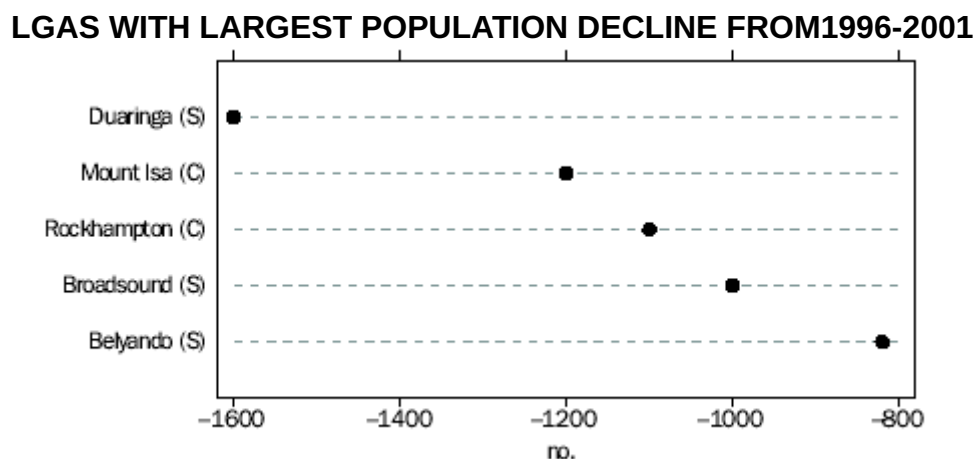
Employment in the mining industry contributed to Burke (S) in the North West SD experiencing the fastest population growth in Queensland over the period 1996 to 2001. Burke increased at an average rate of 7.9% per year between 1996 and 2001, representing a total increase of 540 people.



Note: Average annual growth rate. Excludes LGAs with an estimated resident population of less than 1,000 at June 1996.

Source: Regional Population Growth, Australia and New Zealand, 1991 to 2001, (cat . no. 3218.0).

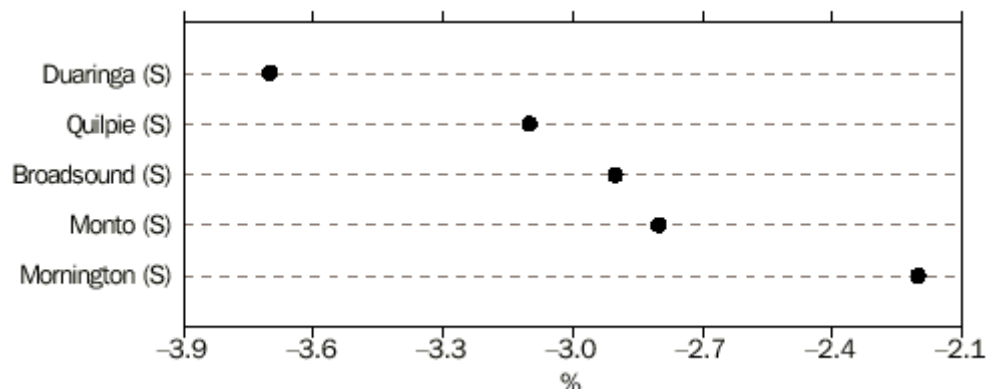
For the period June 1996 to June 2001, Central West SD was the only Queensland SD to record a decrease in population, declining by 80 people. The population of the North West SD remained the same and the South West SD recorded a small increase in population. This represents a change in the trends for the previous 5 year period (June 1991-June 1996) when the populations of the Central West, North West, and South West SDs declined (down 810, 2,300 and 2,700 people respectively).



Source: Regional Population Growth, Australia and New Zealand, 1991 to 2001, (cat . no. 3218.0).

The largest decreases in population in Queensland were recorded in the mining areas of Duaringa (S) and Mount Isa (C), down 1,600 and 1,200 people respectively between 1996 and 2001. The population of Rockhampton (C) decreased by 1,100 people over the five year period to June 2001, partly associated with an emerging trend for people to reside in Livingstone (S) and to commute to work in Rockhampton (C). Duaringa (S) also experienced the highest rate of population decline of all Queensland LGAs for the period (down 3.7% per year).

LGAS WITH FASTEST POPULATION DECLINE, QUEENSLAND



Note: Average annual growth rate. Excludes LGAs with an estimated resident population of less than 1,000 at June 1996.

Source: Regional Population Growth, Australia and New Zealand, 1991 to 2001, (cat. no. 3218.0).

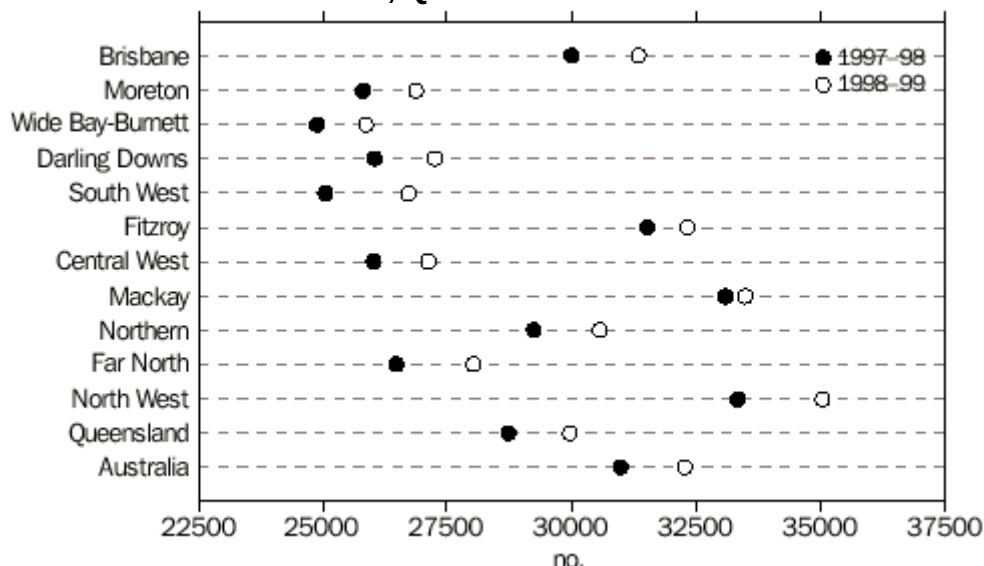
Wage and Salary Earners

In Queensland, there were 1,329,914 wage and salary earners in 1998-99. This accounted for 18.3% of the total number of wage and salary earners in Australia; consistent with the Queensland population as a proportion of the total Australian population (18.7%). In 1998-99, the average wage and salary income for Queensland was \$29,965, an increase of 4.3% (\$1,237) from the previous year. The average for Queensland was 7.1% lower than the Australian average (\$32,271) - only Tasmania and South Australia had lower average wage and salary incomes.

Moreton SD reported the largest percentage increase in the number of wage and salary earners of 6.1% (13,086 persons) over the three years of data for 1996-97 to 1998-99. Four of Queensland's 11 statistical divisions recorded declines in the number of wage and salary earners - the Far North SD had the largest decline with a fall of 2.8% (2,410 persons).

In 1998-99, almost half (652,356 persons) of Queensland's wage and salary earners resided in the Brisbane SD, where the reported average wage and salary income increased from \$28,849 in 1996-97 to \$31,353 in 1998-99 (8.7%). The North West SD had the highest average income by wage and salary earners of \$35,045, an increase of 8.3%.

AVERAGE WAGE AND SALARY INCOME, Statistical Divisions, Queensland-1997-98 and 1998-99



Source: Regional Wage and Salary Earner Statistics, Australia, (cat. no. 5673.0).

North West, Mackay and Fitzroy were the only three statistical divisions in Queensland to report averages higher than both the Queensland and Australian averages in each of the three years to 1998-99. During these years, Mackay also had the smallest increase in average wage and salary income of 2.3%. In 1996-97, the reported average annual wage and salary income in Mackay SD was 18.2% higher than the Queensland average. By 1998-99 this had dropped to 11.8%.

In 1998-99, just over 10% (14) of Queensland's 125 LGAs reported average wage and salary incomes exceeding the state and national averages. An additional eight LGAs reported averages above the Queensland average but below the national average. Unlike the other eastern states, LGAs reporting the highest average wage and salary incomes were located outside of the metropolitan area. The 11 LGAs with the highest averages for Queensland were located in the Mackay, Fitzroy and North West SDs. Around 80% (103) of Queensland's LGAs reported averages below \$30,000.

LGAs within the Mackay and Fitzroy SDs reported the highest average wage and salary income in 1998-99. These were Broomsound (S) (\$51,162), Belyando (S) (\$48,779) and Peak Downs (S) (\$48,540). Despite recording the highest average wage and salary incomes in 1998-99, Broomsound (S) and Belyando (S) recorded a decline of 2.0% and 6.6% respectively over the three years of data for 1996-97 to 1998-99.

Isisford, in the Central West SD, recorded the lowest average wage and salary income in 1998-99 with \$22,461 (25.0% below the Queensland average). The next four LGAs reporting the lowest average wage and salary incomes were all located within the Wide Bay-Burnett SD: Mundubbera (S), Perry (S), Kolan (S) and Gayndah (S) reported averages of \$22,473, \$22,540, \$22,693 and \$22,986 respectively.

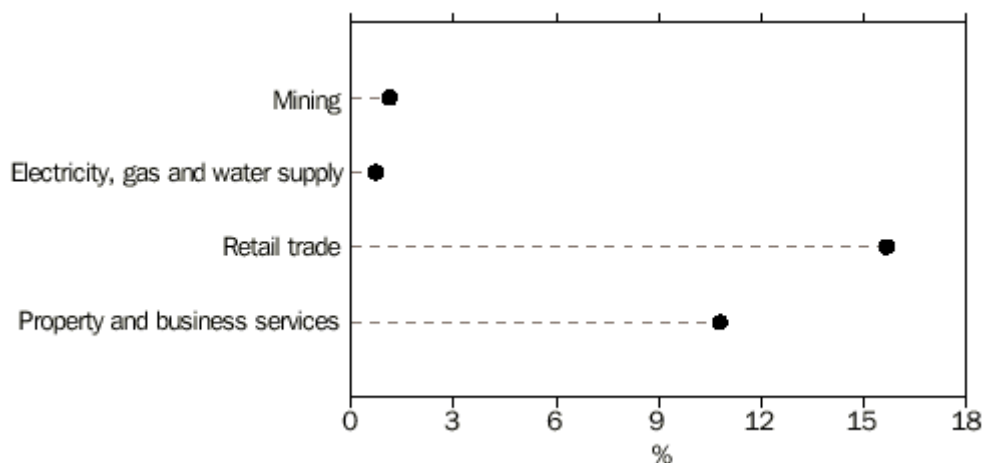
It is important to note that these data exclude persons in their own business, such as farmers, who are not classed as wage and salary earners. Consequently, the data may reflect different earnings averages than expected in some areas.

Labour Force

There was an average of approximately 1,702,400 persons employed in Queensland for the year ended November 2001. Of these, 45.6% were from the Brisbane SD and 54.4% were from the balance of the state.

The industry employing the highest number of full and part-time employees was Retail trade with approximately 266,000 (15.7% of all employed persons), followed by Property and business services with approximately 183,000 (10.8%). The Electricity, gas and water supply industry employed the least with approximately 12,000 (0.7%) followed by the Mining industry with 19,000 (1.1%) employees.

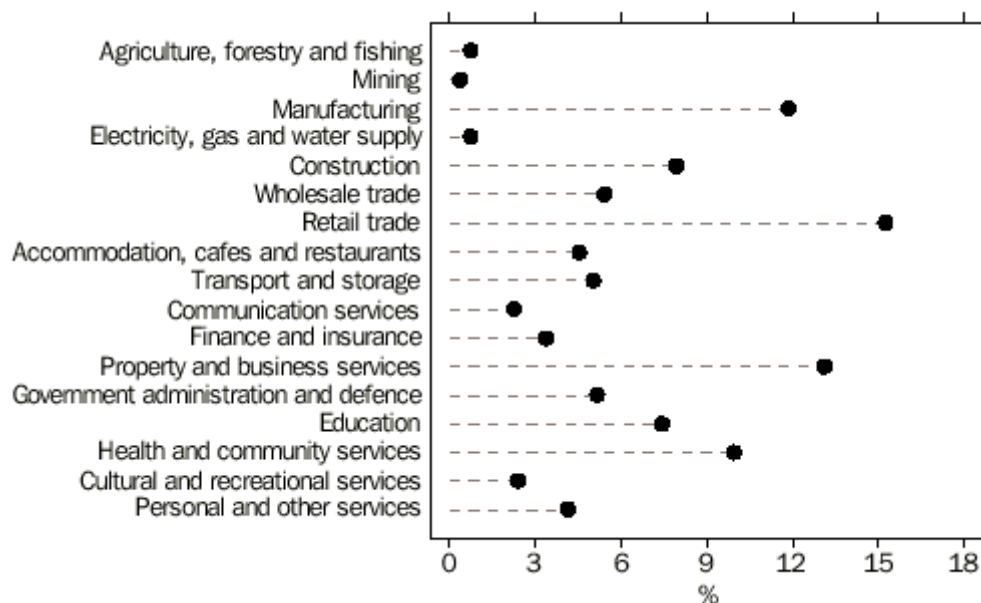
HIGHEST AND LOWEST PERCENTAGES OF EMPLOYEES BY INDUSTRY



Source: ABS data available on request, Labour Force, Australia (cat, no. 6203.0).

Retail trade and Property and business services industries were the two highest employing industries in the state. Retail trade was evenly distributed between Brisbane SD and the balance of the state with 15.3% and 16.0% respectively of those employed, whilst Property and business services accounted for 13.1% of those employed in the Brisbane SD and 8.6% in the balance of the state.

BRISBANE SD - EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY

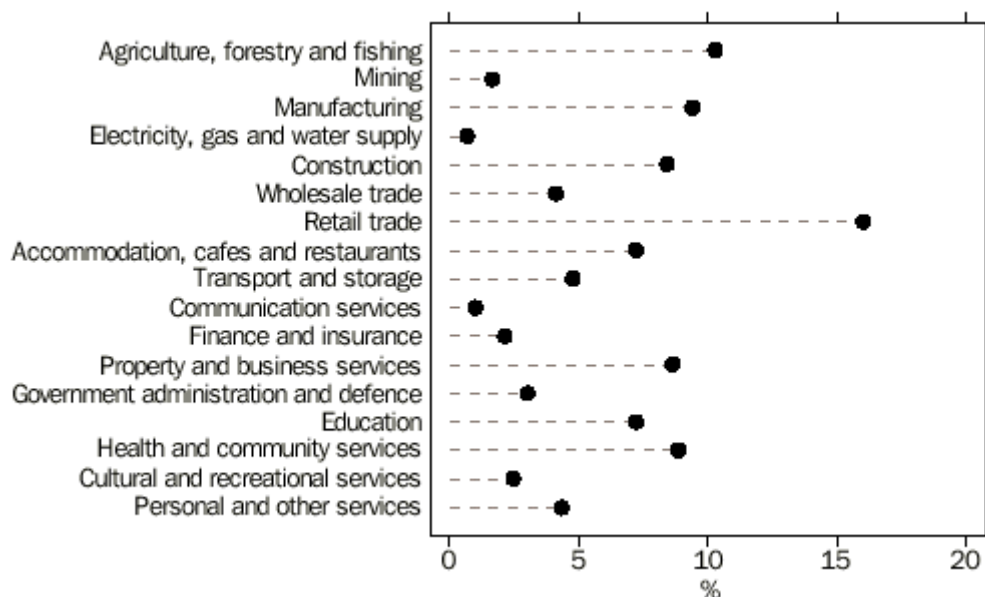


Source: ABS data available on request, Labour Force, Australia (cat, no. 6203.0)

The Agriculture, forestry and fishing industry employed 10.3% of employed persons in the balance of the state, being the second highest employing industry for this area, whilst accounting for only 0.8% in the Brisbane SD. The industries of Manufacturing and Health and community services followed with 9.4% and 8.8% respectively of employed persons in the balance of the state.

The industries of Manufacturing and Health and community services in the Brisbane SD provided employment for 11.9% and 10.0% respectively, following a similar pattern to the balance of the state in being the third and fourth highest employing industries.

BALANCE OF STATE -EMPLOYMENT BY INDUSTRY



Source: ABS data available on request, Labour Force, Australia (cat. no. 6203.0)

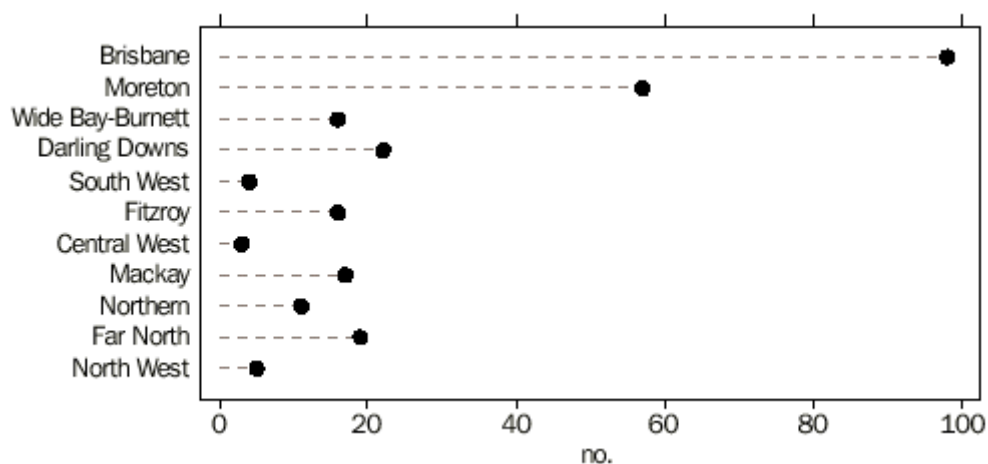
Information Technology

Activity on the Internet continued to increase in Queensland during 2001. At the end of September 2001, Queensland subscribers to the Internet accounted for 19.2% of the Australian total of 4,273,000 subscribers. The number of subscribers in Queensland peaked at 856,000 by the end of June 2001 and dropped by 4.2% to 820,000 by the end of the September quarter. However, this was still an increase of more than 6.4% on the number of subscribers at 30 September 2000.

The majority of Internet subscribers in Queensland are based in the Brisbane SD. This region accounted for 460,000 or 56.1% of all Queensland subscribers. Moreton SD had the second greatest number of subscribers with 152,000 (18.5%).

At the end of September 2001, Queensland had 153 Internet Service Providers (ISPs), a decrease of 24 (13.6%) from the same period in 2000. The majority of ISPs service the south-east regions of the state (the Brisbane and Moreton statistical divisions) where the bulk of Queensland subscribers live. The 153 ISPs provided 408 Points of Presence (POPs) with 90,572 access lines for the 820,000 subscribers.

INTERNET SERVICE PROVIDERS BY STATISTICAL DIVISION



Source: Internet Activity, Australia (cat. no. 8153.0).

Queensland subscribers downloaded 193 million megabytes (Mbs) of data during the September 2001 quarter, with 127 million Mbs or 65.8% downloaded by subscribers in the Brisbane SD alone. The average data downloaded outside the Brisbane SD was highest in Fitzroy with 215 Mbs per subscriber, followed by Moreton SD and Far North SD with 192 Mbs per subscriber each, and the Darling Downs and Mackay Statistical Divisions with 186 Mbs each. The state average for downloads per subscriber was 236 Mbs.

Safety in the Home

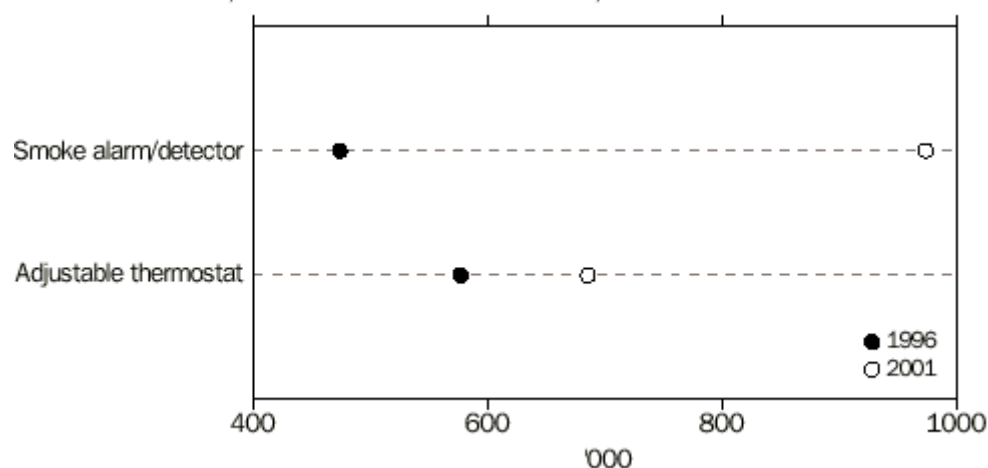
The 2001 Queensland Supplementary Survey conducted in October was Safety in the Home. This topic was previously surveyed in the 1996 State Supplementary Survey. In general, results of the Safety in the Home survey were similar across the Brisbane Major Statistical Region (MSR) and the Balance of Queensland MSR.

Of the estimated 1,409,900 households in Queensland in October 2001, 643,400 (45.6%) were located in the Brisbane MSR and 766,500 (54.4%) were located in the Balance of Queensland MSR.

The proportion of Queensland homes with smoke detectors increased from 38.7% to 69.1% over the five years between October 1996 and October 2001. A higher proportion of Brisbane households (72.6%) had smoke alarms compared with households in the rest of Queensland (66.1%).

While smoke alarms have become a more common safety feature in the home, other areas of home safety have not changed significantly over the past five years. Almost half of all households had an adjustable hot water thermostat (48.6%) and just over one-quarter (26.2%) had anti-slip surfaces or strips, including rubber mats, used or fitted in the bath or shower.

ALL HOUSEHOLDS, SELECTED SAFETY FEATURES, 1996 and 2001



Source: Safety in the Home, Queensland, (cat . no. 4387.3).

Just over one-fifth (20.6%) of all households had a swimming pool or outdoor spa. The most common precaution used to prevent children from drowning was 'child resistant fencing/self locking gate', with 82.0% protected this way. There were 271,300 households (19.2%) with playground equipment. The most popular type of playground equipment were swings (69.5%), followed by trampolines (48.8%).

There were 360,500 (25.6%) households with young children aged four years or less and 521,600 (37.0%) households with older persons aged 60 years or over. Households with young children or older persons were defined as those with at least one usual resident of

that age group or which had at least one person of that age visit at least once a week, in the four weeks prior to the survey.

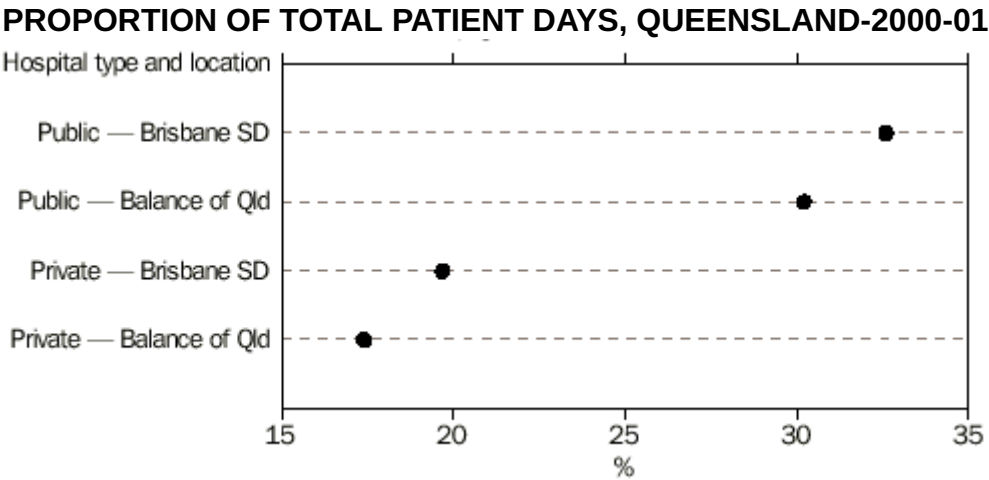
Households with young children and older people were more fire conscious with almost three-quarters (74.1% and 73.1% respectively) fitted with smoke alarms. Anti-slip surfaces or strips, including rubber mats, used or fitted in the bath or shower were reported in more households with young children and older people (30.5% of households with young children and 33.5% of households with older people).

Households with young children were more likely to have at least one resident who had undertaken first aid training, whereas households with older persons were less likely to have at least one resident who had undertaken this training.

Hospitals

Queensland had a total of 15,924 hospital beds (including bed alternatives) available, on average, in 2000-01. Of these, 9,967 beds (62.6%) were in public hospitals and 5,957 (37.4%) were in private hospitals (including day surgery hospital beds). The total number of hospital beds in Queensland represented 4.4 beds per 1,000 persons. Over half of all available hospital beds (8,650 beds or 54.3%) were located in facilities outside the Brisbane SD.

During 2000-01, hospitals in Queensland treated 1.2 million admitted patients and provided 4.3 million days of hospitalisation to these patients. Hospital facilities within the Brisbane SD accounted for 52.4% of total patient days, or approximately 2.3 million patient days. Facilities in the balance of the state accounted for 47.6% of total patient days, or approximately 2.1 million patient days.



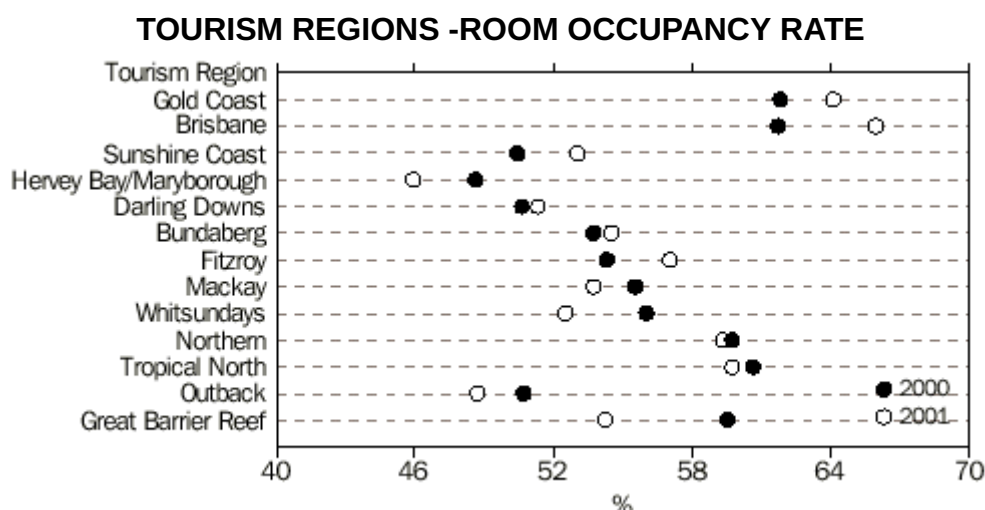
Source: ABS data available on request, Private Health Establishments Collection; Queensland Health

Tourism

Tourism is an important part of the Queensland economy with takings from accommodation of \$1,345m in 2001, a decrease of 1.4% when compared with the previous calendar year. Takings were highest in the Gold Coast, Tropical North Queensland and Brisbane tourism regions ² with respective contributions of 24.6%, 20.3% and 18.1% of the state total. This contrasted with the tourism regions of Bundaberg, Outback and Hervey Bay/Maryborough, which together accounted for only 3.7%.

Room occupancy rates were highest in the Brisbane (65.9%) and Gold Coast (64.1%) tourism regions and lowest in the Hervey Bay/Maryborough (45.9%) and Outback (48.7%)

tourism regions. When compared to the previous year, occupancy rates in 2001 increased in six tourist regions, Brisbane, Gold Coast, Sunshine Coast, Darling Downs, Bundaberg and Fitzroy. This contrasted with declines in those rates in all other regions.



Source: Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data, Queensland, (cat . no. 8635.3.40.001).

Care should be exercised when assessing movements between September 2000 and September 2001 due to the significant events which occurred in these months. The Olympic Games were held in Sydney in September 2000 and both the attack on the United States of America and the demise of Ansett Airlines occurred in September 2001. Room nights occupied in Queensland rose by 4.3% to 1,011,300 between September 2000 and September 2001. Over that same period, the room occupancy rate increased by 2.3 percentage points to 64.1%.

Building Approvals

In 2000-01, the Brisbane SD accounted for 62.3% of the value of non-residential building approvals in Queensland. Moreton SD represented 14.6% with Wide Bay-Burnett and the Far North Statistical Divisions both contributing 4.6% to the value of non-residential building approvals in Queensland.

Dwelling unit approvals in the Brisbane SD in 2000-2001 accounted for 48.9% of the state total. Moreton SD provided 29.7%, Northern and Wide Bay-Burnett SDs contributed 4.6% and 4.5% respectively to the number of Queensland dwelling unit approvals.

Small Business Operations

Small business is defined in terms of either income and/or expenses within the range of \$10,000 to \$5m per annum. In 1999-2000, total small business income in Queensland was \$75,973m. The Brisbane and Moreton Statistical Divisions were the largest contributors with \$35,207m (46.3%) and \$15,535m (20.5%) respectively to the state total. Other statistical divisions with significant income were Darling Downs with \$5,034m (6.6%) and Far North with \$4,733m (6.2%). Each of the remaining regions had less than 5.0% of the state total.

Income for small businesses in the Brisbane, South West, Moreton and Darling Downs Statistical Divisions showed the strongest growth rates of 23.5%, 22.9%, 18.6% and 17.5% respectively between 1995-1996 and 1999-2000. These increases equate to average annual increases of 5.4%, 5.3%, 4.4% and 4.1% respectively. Small business income in all other Queensland regions increased by less than 10.0% over the five year period except for the North West SD which declined by 19.9%.

Local Government Finance

Queensland has 125 local authorities which, in 2000-01, generated total revenue of \$4,644m and incurred total expenses of \$4,027m. This accounted for 27.4% of total Australian local government revenue and for 25.6% of expenses. The greatest source of revenue for the state was sales of goods and services (\$2,074m), followed by taxation (\$1,248m).

The five Queensland local government authorities with both the greatest revenue and expenses in 2000-01 were Brisbane, Gold Coast, Logan, Maroochy and Townsville, together accounting for 47% of Queensland's revenue and 47.7% of the state's expenses. The average revenue of Queensland LGAs during this period was \$37.1m, while the average expenses were \$32.2m. Diamantina in Central West Queensland had the highest per capita revenue (\$31,800) and expenses (\$31,500) in the state.

The LGAs with the highest levels of both assets and liabilities were all major urban centres with the top five in each case accounting for 50% of the assets and 57.9% of the liabilities of Queensland local government. Brisbane had both the greatest assets and liabilities in the state, making up 31.1% (\$10,711m) and 36.2% (\$1,350m) of the Queensland totals respectively. The average value of assets of Queensland LGAs was \$276m and the average amount of liabilities was \$30m.

footnotes

¹ The estimated resident population (ERP) is the official measure of the population of Australia. The ERP figures in this publication incorporate the results of the 2001 Census of Population and Housing. There are a number of conceptual differences between ERP figures and census counts. The concept of ERP links people to a place of usual residence which is one reason why figures can differ. For more detail, readers are referred to Demographic Estimates and Projections: Concepts, Sources and Methods, Statistical Concepts Library, on this site. The 2001 ERP figures are preliminary, with final estimates to be published in the 2001-02 edition of Regional Population Growth, Australia and New Zealand (cat. no. 3218.0), due for release in May 2003.

² Tourism regions are defined by relevant state and territory tourist commissions or equivalent organisations. Details of the composition of tourism regions, including maps, are available on request from the ABS and the concordance between statistical local areas of the ASGC and the Queensland tourism regions may be found in Tourist Accommodation, Small Area Data, Queensland, (cat. no. 8635.3.40.001).

About this Release

ABOUT THIS RELEASE

Replaces: 1314.3

Varied range of data included for legal Local Government Areas, Statistical Districts and Statistical Divisions. A comparison of metropolitan to ex-metropolitan is also included.

Explanatory Notes

Explanatory Notes

INTRODUCTION

1. This publication brings together a range of ABS and non-ABS data to provide users of Regional Statistics, Queensland (cat. no. 1362.3) with information on key social and economic variables for the local government areas of Queensland. Historical data, as well as the latest available data (at the time of preparation) enable comparison over time and between regions.
2. Data presented are obtained from a wide variety of collections, both ABS and non-ABS. When analysing the data, care needs to be taken as time periods, definitions, methodologies, scope and coverage may differ. Some main data concepts and definitions are included below. For more detailed information, including technical notes, please refer to the relevant source publications that are listed in the Bibliography.

REGIONS

3. The regions specified are local government areas as defined in Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC), (cat. no. 1216.0). Legal local government areas (LGAs), are spatial units which represent the geographical areas of incorporated local government councils, such as cities (C), towns (T) and shires (S).
4. Statistical divisions, which are groupings of whole or partial LGAs, are designed to be relatively homogeneous regions characterised by identifiable social and economic units within the region. The statistical division of North West includes unincorporated islands.
5. Statistical districts enable comparable statistics to be produced about selected urban areas which are designed to contain the anticipated urban spread of areas containing a population of 25,000 or more, for at least 20 years.
6. The regions used for the publication of labour force statistics are based on standard geographical regions and are mostly identical in terms of spatial definitions with the statistical regions of the ASGC.
7. While care was taken in producing the concordances for non-ABS data, the concorded data are not an official ABS product and the ABS will not guarantee the accuracy of concorded data. No liability will be accepted by the ABS for any damages arising from decisions or actions based upon the data.
8. In applying the concordances it is assumed that the particular characteristics of any data item are uniformly distributed across the spatial area.
9. The area in square kilometres of statistical areas is derived from digitised statistical boundaries from the 2001 census. There have been improvements to the digital base maps used to map statistical geography. This has resulted in small increases in area from the 1996 ASGC to the 2001 ASGC used in this publication.

10. ABS data in this publication relate to the period 1997 to 2001. Where possible, data are presented according to the ASGC 2001 edition. Exceptions are: ASGC 1996 Edition applies to Agriculture and Labour Force. ASGC 2000 Edition applies to Births, Deaths, Building and Tourist Accommodation.

Note, however, that for these the transfer of the local government area of Bowen Shire from the Northern Statistical Division to the Mackay Statistical Division has been taken into account, except for the Labour Force data.

SELECTED DATA ITEMS

Population estimates

11. This publication contains final estimates of the resident population for statistical divisions in Queensland for each year at 30 June from 1997 to 2001. The estimates are based on results of the 2001 census of population and housing, and were calculated for post-census dates by a linear regression model using independent indicators of population change.

12. Resident population estimates for the period 1996-2001 have been revised using the 2001 Census results. Final estimates for the 1996-2001 period will be published in March 2003. For further information see Australian Demographic Statistics (cat. no. 3101.0).

13. Figures are shown to the nearest unit without rounding, but accuracy to the last digit is not claimed and should not be assumed.

Social security customers

14. The figures shown under the heading 'Social security customers' have been compiled by the Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services (FaCS). The social security system in Australia provides, subject to eligibility criteria, income support for people who are retired, have a disability or medical condition which prevents them from working, are unemployed, have children in their care or are not in a position to provide for themselves because of special circumstances. It also provides a framework to support access to employment for those with the ability to participate in the workforce.

15. The statistics compiled by FaCS on Australia's welfare customers are classified according to the postcode district in the postal address held on departmental records. The figures shown in this publication have been converted from postcode areas to local government areas using geographic concordances based on 1998 estimated resident population data. Further information can be obtained in the publications Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services, Income Support Customers - a statistical overview and Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services, Customers by Postcode (cat. no. 109.06).

Building approvals

16. Statistics of building work approved are compiled from: permits issued by local government authorities and other principal certifying authorities contracts let or day labour work organised by commonwealth, state, semi-government and local government authorities major building approvals in areas not subject to normal administrative approval e.g. building on remote mine sites.

17. The statistics in this publication include: all approved new residential building valued at

\$10,000 or more approved alterations and additions to residential building valued at \$10,000 or more all approved non-residential building jobs valued at \$50,000 or more.

18. Excluded from the statistics is construction activity not defined as building (e.g. construction of roads, bridges, railways, earthworks, etc.).

Agriculture

19. Agriculture data are presented annually for statistical divisions from 1997 to 2000 based on Agricultural Census data for 1997 and the Agricultural Commodities Survey for the years 1998 to 2000. Data for LGAs has been presented for 1997, the latest available agricultural census. Survey data for the small areas are subject to high standard errors and hence are not available. The results from the 2001 Agricultural Census are expected to be released in November 2002.

20. Agricultural commodity production is mainly taken from the ABS agricultural census and in general the statistics relate to the season ended 31 March each year.

21. Data prior to 1998 were collected from the agricultural census. From 1998 onwards data have been collected from the agricultural commodities survey. The data presented have been concorded to align with 1998 agricultural business location counts obtained from the ABS Business Register.

22. The value of agricultural commodities produced is derived by multiplying quantity data by price (or unit value) data. The quantity data are collected in the agricultural census, other ABS collections and in some cases, from external sources. All price information is obtained from non-ABS sources.

Tourist accommodation

23. From 1998 onwards, data include licensed hotels, motels and guest houses with facilities and serviced apartments with 15 or more rooms or units. For 1997 and prior, the data included licensed hotels, motels and guest houses with facilities with 5 or more rooms or units. Due to this significant change in the survey scope, data before and after the change are not directly comparable. For further explanation, refer to the March quarter 1998 issue of Tourist Accommodation, Australia (cat. no. 8635.0.).

Motor vehicle registrations

24. New motor vehicle registration statistics, prior to January 2002, were obtained monthly from the state's motor vehicle registration authority and reflect the information recorded in registration documents. The figures shown in this publication have been derived by converting postcode areas to local government areas using geographic concordances based on ASGC 2001. 25. Motor vehicles data exclude Commonwealth Government owned vehicles.

Income

26. The taxable income data have been obtained from the Australian Taxation Office with the statistics being aggregated from the residential postcode address of the taxpayers. Individual income tax records have not been released to the ABS, rather the data obtained has previously been aggregated and confidentialised to protect the identity of individuals.

27. Individual taxable income data has been concorded to LGAs based on the ASGC 2001 edition. Wages and salary data has been concorded to the ASGC 1999 edition, except for

recognising the transfer of the Bowen LGA from the Northern Statistical Division to the Mackay Statistical Division.

Crime

28. The statistics contained in this publication were obtained from the Queensland Police Service at the Police Division level. These data were then converted into LGAs by the Office of Economic and Statistical Research (OESR), Queensland Treasury. The numbers and rates of offences and offenders presented are therefore not official Queensland Police Service statistics and should be treated as estimates only.

29. Information is not available for a number of the smaller LGAs. Users may wish to refer to OESR's web site <<http://www.oesr.qld.gov.au>> to obtain 'Small area crime profiles, 2000-2001' data where these LGAs were aggregated by the OESR to form larger geographical groupings.

30. The methodology used to disaggregate the data to the LGA level does not take into consideration factors, such as socioeconomic influences, when allocating crime to local government areas. Therefore, the statistics should be considered estimates only and treated with caution.

Schools and students

31. The statistics contained in this publication have been derived from information provided by Education Queensland and concurred to LGAs based on the ASGC 2001 edition. The statistics are for numbers of government and non-government schools and students, covering primary, secondary, combined primary and secondary, and special schools as at the first Friday in August each year.

Labour force

32. This report contains original (unadjusted) estimates of employed persons and unemployed for labour force statistical regions. Historically, these series have shown a high degree of variability which is inherent in data from the labour force survey relating to small labour markets. Care should therefore be taken in the interpretation of regional estimates.

33. The purpose of the Labour Force Survey is to provide timely information on the labour market activity of the usually resident civilian population of Australia aged 15 years and over. The statistics of most interest each month are the estimates of the number of employed and unemployed people, the unemployment rate and the labour force participation rate. Data on occupation, industry, status in employment, and underemployment, are collected in the months February, May, August and November only. For further information refer to Labour Statistics: Concepts, Sources and Methods, (cat. no. 6102.0).

34. The labour force survey is designed primarily to produce reliable national, state and territory estimates. While estimates for regions are components of corresponding estimates at the state level, independent population benchmarks are not applied at the statistical region level. Therefore, while statistical region estimates will add to the state total, they will show less stability than for similar estimates at the state level. In addition, estimates (particularly estimates of unemployment), being considerably lower than state estimates, are subject to higher relative standard errors.

35. The ASGC version used for Labour Force data is updated every five years. The data in this publication relates to ASGC 1996 edition. The ASGC 2001 edition will be used from November 2002.

Further information

36. Current publications and other products released by the ABS are listed in the **Catalogue of Publications and Products** (cat. no. 1101.0). The catalogue is available from any ABS office or this site. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on the web site which details products to be released in the week ahead.

Glossary

Age pension

A Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services payment for people who have reached retirement age. To qualify for the Age Pension a male must be aged 65 years while the age at which a female may qualify depends upon her birth date. The qualifying age for females is being increased gradually to 65 years between 1 July 1995 and 1 July 2013. Other eligibility requirements that apply can be referenced to the Department's publication *Income Support Customers - a statistical overview*.

Agricultural establishment

An establishment which is engaged mainly in agricultural activities.

Area of holdings

Includes all occupied and maintained land owned, leased or rented, land worked by sharefarmers and all road permits. Excludes land leased or rented to others.

Birth

The delivery of a child, irrespective of the duration of pregnancy, who, after being born, breathes or shows any evidence of life such as heartbeat.

Census counts

The Census enumerates people where they were located on Census night. Most standard output products from the Census provide characteristics of people on this place of enumeration basis.

Census counts by place of enumeration:

- include overseas visitors for Age, Sex and Registered Marital Status
- exclude overseas visitors for all other person variables
- exclude Australian residents temporarily overseas.

Census data are also available on place of usual residence. Census counts by place of usual residence exclude overseas visitors and Australian residents temporarily overseas.

Death

For the purposes of the Deaths and Causes of Death collections conducted by the ABS, a death refers to any death which occurs in, or en route to Australia and is registered with a state or territory Registry of Births, Deaths and Marriages.

Estimated resident population (ERP)

The estimated resident population is the official measure of the population of Australia and is based on the concept of residence. It refers to all people, regardless of nationality or citizenship, who usually live in Australia, with the exception of foreign diplomatic personnel and their families. It includes usual residents who are overseas for less than 12 months. It excludes overseas visitors who are in Australia for less than 12 months.

Individual taxable income

Individual taxable income is the sum of income from all sources as reported on the individual income tax return for the financial year. Included is income received from wages and salaries, own business, investments and government pensions, benefits or allowances.

Internet service providers

Resident Australian individuals or businesses offering Internet access services to customers.

Labour force

For any group, persons who were employed or unemployed.

Local government area

A local government area is the spatial unit which represents the whole, undivided geographical area of responsibility of an incorporated local government council. In Queensland these include cities, towns and shires. Local government areas are made up of one or more statistical local areas.

Mature age allowance

A Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services payment that provides assistance to older, long-term unemployed people aged 60 years and over, but below the age pension age. Also included under this category is the mature age partner allowance paid to people below the Age Pension age and who are partners of people receiving the mature age allowance.

Median age

The age at which half the population is older and half is younger.

Motor vehicle registration

Motor vehicle registration refers to all vehicles registered with a state or territory government motor vehicle registry for unrestricted use on public roads with the following exceptions:

- diplomatic vehicles

- vehicles registered by the defence forces.

Newstart allowance

A Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services payment, for working-aged persons who are unemployed, aimed at ensuring recipients participate in activities designed to help their employment prospects. From September 1996, job search allowance and what was then known as Newstart allowance were combined into a single payment called Newstart allowance.

Non-residential building

A non-residential building is primarily intended for purposes other than long-term residential purposes.

Participation rate

For any group, the labour force expressed as a percentage of the civilian population aged 15 and over in the same group.

Permanent arrivals

Permanent arrivals (settler) comprise:

- travellers who hold migrant visas (regardless of stated intended period of stay)
- New Zealand citizens who indicate an intention to settle
- those who are otherwise eligible to settle (e.g. overseas-born children of Australian citizens).

Point of Presence

A server in a geographic location where an ISP can be accessed by a subscriber via access lines.

Residential building

A residential building is a building consisting of one or more dwelling units. Residential buildings can be either houses or other residential buildings which are primarily used for long-term residential purposes.

Room occupancy rate

Occupancy rates represent occupancy expressed as a percentage of total capacity available during the survey period, e.g. for the period providing that, for establishments closing (other than for seasonal reasons) or opening during the survey period, the denominator of the above expression includes only operating periods.

$$\text{Room occupancy rate (\%)} = \frac{\text{Room nights occupied}}{(\text{Guest rooms}) \times (\text{no. of days in the period})} \times 100$$

Social security customers

For the purpose of this publication the term total social security customers is defined as the total number of persons receiving income support from the Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services. This list was developed in conjunction with Centrelink. It provides a measure of total customers which, although not absolutely precise, overcomes the difficulty that some people receive more than one payment type.

Statistical district

Statistical districts are predominantly urban areas, the boundaries of which are designed to contain the anticipated urban spread of the area for at least 20 years. They are generally defined as containing an urban centre population of 25,000 or more.

Statistical division

Statistical divisions consist of one or more statistical subdivisions and form the largest and most stable spatial unit for the presentation of data. Statistical divisions aggregate to form a state or territory without gaps or overlaps.

Statistical local areas

The statistical local area is a general purpose spatial unit. It is the base spatial unit used by the ABS to collect and disseminate statistics other than those collected from the population census.

Takings from accommodation

Takings from accommodation include gross revenue from the provision of accommodation. Takings from meals are excluded.

Tourism establishments

From the March quarter 1998, the scope of the survey of tourist accommodation has included licensed hotels, motels and guest houses and serviced apartments with 15 or more rooms or units.

Unemployment rate

For any group, the number of unemployed persons expressed as a percentage of the labour force in the same group.

Value of agricultural commodities produced

The value placed on recorded production at wholesale prices realised in the market place.

Wage and salary earners

Persons aged 15 years and over who have submitted an individual income tax return and for whom wage and salary income was the principal source of income for the financial year.

Youth allowance

The Commonwealth Department of Family and Community Services payment provides income support for persons aged 16-24 years old and a full-time student or persons aged 18-20 years old and looking for work full-time or combining part-time study and looking for work. Youth Allowance replaced Youth Training Allowance and Austudy for those under 25 from 1 July 1998.

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